

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Zand Reported On Way To Israel After Receiving New Exit Visa

TEL AVIV, June 24 (JTA)--Prof. Mikhail Zand, whose exit visa was arbitrarily revoked by Soviet authorities only hours after it was issued a month ago, has reportedly left Moscow with a new visa and is expected in Israel later tonight. Zand, a specialist on Oriental languages, will join the faculty of Bar Ilan University as a lecturer in literature. He was fired from his post at the Institute for Eastern Studies in Moscow last March after participating in a Moscow demonstration against the trial of Jews. Zand was arrested on that occasion and served 15 days in jail on charges of "hooliganism." His case became a cause celebre in Jewish and other academic circles in the United States. Numerous scholars sent petitions to Soviet authorities appealing for a new exit visa for Zand and his family said to be in poor health and suffering serious economic hardships. Soviet authorities reportedly told Zand that his visa was revoked pending an investigation of "undesirable activities" on his part. The activities reportedly consisted of conversations with Western friends. Jewish sources reported earlier this week that Zand was finally given permission to leave Russia.

## Charges Dropped Against 14 Who Handcuffed Themselves To U.S. Mission

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA)--Charges of criminal trespass and disorderly conduct against 14 Jews who handcuffed themselves to the United States Mission on June 14 were dismissed in Criminal Court today by Judge Leon Becker. After a two-and-a-half-hour hearing, the judge said the government had not proved that its allegations were true. The defendants were 11 rabbis, two professors and Glenn Richter, national coordinator of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. It was the "first bust" for all of them, according to Richter. The demonstrators were protesting what they called State Department inaction on aid to Soviet Jewry, specifically in regard to the initiation of Yiddish and Hebrew programming into Russia on the Voice of America. They were also calling on the White House to issue a strong protest against the treatment and prosecution of Soviet Jews and to declare support for the bill to provide 30,000 emergency visas for Soviet Jews. A 12th rabbi, who had participated in earlier demonstrations at the Mission and was scheduled to participate June 14, did not do so and was not charged.

The defendants were represented today by Richard Kurtz, of the National Committee on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), and Rep. Mario Biaggi, Democrat-Conservative of New York. Taking the stand were Rabbis Steven Riskin of Lincoln Square Synagogue, Irving Greenberg of Riverdale Jewish Center and Charles Sheer of Columbia University; Prof. James Burton of Columbia, and Richter. They and their attorneys argued that they should be praised, not condemned, for dramatizing the plight of Soviet Jewry and VOA policy. Asked after the hearing by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency if the demonstrators would act similarly in the future, Richter said it was "up to the State Department," alluding to its administrative role in VOA policymaking. The Department, he said, had to decide whether to "put rabbis in the position where they have to go back again (to the U.S. Mission)."

## Jewish Agency Assembly Submits \$487 Million Deficit Budget

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA)--A deficit budget of \$487,415,935 for fiscal 1971-72 was proposed to the Jewish Agency's founding Assembly here today by its budget and finance committee. The budget will be administered by the 40-member Board of Governors elected last night to serve as the supreme policy-making body of the expanded Jewish Agency between meetings of the Assembly. The Board of Governors elected as its first chairman Max Fisher of Detroit, chairman of the United Israel Appeal and president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds in the United States. The new budget exceeds anticipated income. The budget and finance committee noted in its budget resolution that it was "compelled to eliminate a number of important and vital items" and that it was "concerned that insufficient funds are available to satisfy all of the essential needs which come within purview of the activity of the Jewish Agency." The resolution authorized the Board of Governors to "make such changes in the budget during the course of the fiscal year as it deems necessary." Addressing the Assembly yesterday, former Premier David Ben-Gurion predicted peace with Egypt during the next decade. He said he based his optimism on the growing number of Egyptian university graduates who, he hoped, would direct their country's energies toward nation-building rather than war.

## State Department Feels Resumption Of Israel-USSR Diplomatic Relations Favorable Step

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA)--State Department officials said today that they would view the resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union as a favorable development. Charles Bray, State Department spokesman, commenting on reports that the Soviet Union and Israel were putting out feelers on the possibility of resuming diplomatic relations, said the matter was "clearly a matter between the governments and the United States is not involved in any way." He declined further comment. (The New York Times reported today that according to foreign diplomats, Israel and the Soviet Union were sounding each other out "through various channels" on the possibility of resuming diplomatic relations, broken by Moscow during the 1967 Six-Day War. According to Times reporter Tad Szulc, informed diplomats described Israel as ready to welcome Soviet approaches. However the soundings reportedly have not yet reached the diplomatic stage.)

## Report That Jews Implicated Kishinev Defendants Termed Travesty Of Truth

LONDON, June 24 (JTA)--Jewish sources in the Soviet Union today disputed a report by the official Soviet news agency Tass that one of the Jews convicted in the Leningrad hijack trial last December has implicated three of the nine Jews presently on trial in Kishinev. The sources said Tass' claim that Hillel Butman identified David Chernogiaz as one of the organizers of the alleged hijack plot of June, 1970 and named Alexander Galperin and Arkady Voloshin as accomplices was "a complete travesty of

of the truth." The Jewish sources said that Butman who is serving a prison term for his role in the alleged plot to hijack a Soviet airliner at Leningrad was forced to testify at the Kishinev trial but refused to implicate any of the defendants. They said Butman merely repeated the contention that none of the accused acted in a manner harmful to the Soviet Union. He admitted meeting with the defendants but nothing more. Nevertheless, the Kishinev prosecutor claimed that the evidence given at the previous hijack trials coincided with the testimony against the present defendants. The sources ridiculed Tase's assertion that the Kishinev trial was "open." They said that only Soviet correspondents were admitted to the courtroom and that they had to rely on oral reports of the proceedings which did not always coincide.

In other developments, 33 Latvian and Lithuanian Jews staged a hunger strike at the Moscow Central Post Office today while 50 more Jews held a similar demonstration in Riga to protest the government's refusal to grant them exit visas. The Moscow group said they planned to stay at the post office until they were told why exit visas were denied them. According to Jewish sources, Roiza Palatnik, whose trial began yesterday in an Odessa provincial court, pleaded not guilty to charges that she slandered the Soviet Union. The 35-year-old librarian who has been jailed since last Dec. 1, claimed as her trial opened that she was being persecuted for wanting to go to Israel, the sources said. No reports of her trial have appeared in Soviet news media. Reliable sources said Miss Palatnik was charged with possession of petitions signed by Jews protesting official policies and with planning to circulate them. She claimed that she had the material for professional reasons. If convicted of slandering the Soviet Union or planning to do so, Miss Palatnik would face a penalty of up to three years imprisonment.

### AJ Committee Appeals To Kishinev Citizens To Protest Trial

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee, which was established in 1906 as a direct result of a pogrom then against Jews in Kishinev, today urged the citizens of Kishinev to protest the trial of nine Jews in that city. In a letter addressed to Ivan Vasilyevich Kuskevich, chairman of the City Executive Committee, Philip E. Hoffman, president of the AJ Committee, pointed out that although there is worldwide protest against the trials outside the Soviet Union, "the impetus to put an end to these legal atrocities must come from within." Hoffman asserted that "Jews are on trial in Kishinev for the 'crimes' of wanting to emigrate to Israel, or wanting to live in the Jewish tradition." Drawing a parallel between the pogroms which, at the turn of the century, spurred the founding of AJ Committee and the current trials, the letter said: "Although legal instruments are now used, the intent remains the same: the suppression of Jewish life and tradition." In his appeal to the citizens of Kishinev, Hoffman drew attention to the fact that "prejudice against individuals because of race or nationality is outlawed by the Soviet Constitution, and freedom to pursue cultural identity is supposedly the right of all who live in the Soviet Union." However, he added, these precepts are far from being practiced and only the citizens of the Soviet Union--the citizens of Kishinev--can influence their government in this respect.

### Mrs. Meir Predicts Russia Will One Day Tell Truth About Soviet Jews

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir predicted yesterday that "a day will come soon when Soviet leaders as well as intellectuals and youth will stand up and tell the truth about Jews in the Soviet Union and will apologize to us for the suffering they have caused the Jewish people." Mrs. Meir spoke at an emergency meeting of the Israel Council of Women's Organizations called to protest the treatment of Jews in Russia and in the Arab states. Another speaker was Mrs. Herzliya Lakai, a recent immigrant from Iraq who was imprisoned there for two years. She described the torture of Jews held for interrogation in Iraq and Syria. She said that Syrian Jews are forbidden to move beyond three miles of their homes and cannot possess telephones or driving licenses. She said many have been fired from their jobs.

### Japanese Auto Firm Agrees To Market Cars In Israel; Defies Arab Boycott

TEL AVIV, June 24 (JTA)--Japan's second largest automobile manufacturers, the Nissan Co., has agreed to market its cars in Israel in defiance of the Arab League boycott with which, allegedly, it had hitherto complied. The change of policy was attributed here to pressure by American Jews. The Japanese firm has entered into partnership agreements with Eisenberg Enterprises and the Histadrut-owned "Noa" Co.

### Two Yiddish Dailies In Desperate Financial Straits

BUENOS AIRES, June 24 (JTA)--The two local Yiddish dailies, Di Yiddishe Zeitung and Di Presse, published today urgent appeals to the Jewish population here particularly business people and industrialists, to help them with ads because the economic situation of both papers is extremely difficult and "it would be a pity if Buenos Aires were converted spiritually into a cemetery." Argentina is in the throes of a prolonged economic and financial crisis and the Jewish population is particularly hard hit.

### Pope Says Mideast Peace Will Not Come Through Simple Formula, Military Action

ROME, June 24 (JTA)--Pope Paul VI expressed the hope today that a "real peace" would come to the Middle East but he said it would not come through military victory or a simple formula. Addressing the College of Cardinals, the Pontiff said, "The complexity of the situation makes it delicate and difficult. Only a true interest in peace and endeavors to work for it guides our actions." Referring to Jerusalem and Holy Places, the Pope said, "It is also our right and duty to concern ourselves with the protection of the Holy Places. We know that not only Catholicism but the whole of Christianity shares this concern. There is also the care of the Christian population, and interest for the non-Christian Arab and Jewish populations of the region so that they may lead normal lives despite their diverse character." Continuing, he stated: "There is also the question of Jerusalem. It seems to us that it is in the interests of all that this city with its uniqueness, should be protected by a special statute and thus be better enabled to become a center of peace and no longer the object of implacable controversy and endless dispute. To that end we try to perform, with respect and friendship, a task of persuasion." (In New

York, commenting to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on the Pope's remarks, Philip Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee said "the most critical aspect of the Pope's statement is its reference to the need for a 'special statute' for Jerusalem. If that implies the re-introduction of the proposal for the internationalization of Jerusalem, then we fear that this argument will confound the possibilities of advancing the cause of peace. To introduce an international agency in Jerusalem will invite the intrigue, political competition and controversy that every international city in the past has foundered on." Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of the AJ Committee's interreligious affairs department, told the JTA that the "special statute" referred to by Pope Paul probably was the 1947 statute for the internationalization of Jerusalem contained in the United Nations partition plan for Palestine. Rabbi Tanenbaum said the Vatican dropped its support of that statute following Israel's conquest of East Jerusalem in 1967. He said the Pope may have been responding, albeit very cautiously, to a recent emotional appeal by seven Jordanian bishops against Israeli rule of East Jerusalem. Rabbi Tanenbaum said that in the view of the AJ Committee there is an intense struggle within the Vatican between pro-Arab and Third World forces, on one hand and elements more sensitive to the West and to relationships between Catholics and Jews on the other, with a view to determining policy on Jerusalem.)

### Brick Hurlled Through Window Of Russian Diplomat's Home; Three Arrested

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA)--Three student activists for Soviet Jewry were arrested early this morning for allegedly throwing a brick through a window of the Silver Springs, Md. apartment of Vladislav Y. Shimanovskiy, an attache at the Soviet Embassy here. The youths were identified as Ralph Bieber, 15, Michael Lebovic, 18 and Yossi Templeman, 24, all of New York City. Templeman, who is national chairman of the Student Activists for Soviet Jewry, described himself as head of Jewish Identity Week for Soviet Jewry which began here yesterday. Bieber was taken to Juvenile Court. Templeman and Lebovic released on their personal bond were told to appear on July 12 before Judge Calvin Sanders of the Peoples Court. The alleged brick-throwing occurred at 2:10 a.m. A note wrapped around the brick said, "Stop the Kishinev Trials. Never Again." "Never Again" is a slogan used by the Jewish Defense League.

The JTA learned that Bieber and Lebovic were arrested as they approached a car several blocks from the Soviet diplomat's home. Templeman was in the car idling the motor when he was arrested. He was charged with aiding and abetting the others. Templeman praised the Montgomery County police for "treating them with dignity" but complained that they were not permitted to phone their lawyer for several hours after their arrest. The Soviet Embassy refused to comment on the incident. Jason Silverman, regional director of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, referring to the incident, told the JTA that such actions "confuse the responsible response of the Jewish community to the issue of Soviet treatment of Jews." When State Department officials were informed of the brick-throwing incident, they telephoned the Soviet Embassy to express "regret" and promised to do whatever they could to prevent "harassment." Department spokesman Charles Bray told newsmen that various city police agencies "were doing their utmost to assure protection of Soviet personnel, buildings and property." He declined to disclose what steps the police agencies were taking.

### Dobrynin's Talk With Irwin To Register Unease Over JDL Demonstrations

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA)--State Department officials confirmed today that one of the purposes of Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin's talk two weeks ago with Undersecretary of State John Irwin was to register his unease over the prospect of demonstrations by the Jewish Defense League against Soviet offices and other installations during Jewish Identity Week. State Department sources said Dobrynin had conveyed "an indirect allusion" that JDL actions against Soviet premises might be followed by actions against Americans in Russia. Many past instances of violence against Russians in the U.S. have brought retaliation against U.S. citizens in the USSR. (In New York yesterday, the Soviet Ambassador to the United Nations, Jacob Malik, lodged a "strong protest" with U.S. Ambassador George Bush over a dynamite time bomb found at the base of a wall surrounding an estate owned by the Soviet UN Mission at Glen Cove, L.I. Malik demanded that the U.S. "find the criminals" who planted the bomb and punish them severely.)

### Tekoah Assails UN Committee To Investigate Israeli Practices In Occupied Territories

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 24 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah criticized again today the "illegal constitution, biased terms of reference and incompetence" of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories and the Special Working Group of Experts of the Commission on Human Rights. Tekoah's charges, identical to those he issued April 7, were made today after it was announced that the Israeli Practices Committee will resume its investigations in the Middle East later this month. The Committee consists of Yugoslavia, Somalia and Ceylon, all without diplomatic relations with Israel. The Committee concluded last year, despite evidence to the contrary, that Israel was violating the rights of the residents of the occupied Arab areas.

### Mrs. Meir: Israel Will Not Forego Geography, Control Of Shipping Lanes

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA)--The Assembly of the reconstituted Jewish Agency concluded tonight with a speech by Premier Golda Meir in which she reiterated that "geography" and "control over our shipping lane" were "conditions" that Israel could not forego. "We refuse to do anything that can make the next war easier," she declared. Mrs. Meir observed that "if President Sadat (of Egypt) is not resuming the war now, then the reason is that he knows very well he can't win it." She added to the Assembly that while American aid was appreciated, "where our security is concerned we rely on Israel itself, and that means you and we together." Max M. Fisher of Detroit, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, said the Assembly was "no ordinary enterprise" but an effort "to correct history..., to refresh our own inspiration and to create new ways of achieving great things for our people."

